

**Sheep Creek Vegetation Management
Proposed Action Scoping
USDA Forest Service
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
La Grande Ranger District**

The La Grande Ranger District invites you to participate in the Sheep Creek Vegetation Management Project planning process. The Sheep Creek project includes approximately 30,000 acres within the Chicken Creek and Sheep Creek Subwatersheds; located in Union County, 22 air miles southwest of La Grande, OR at townships 5&6 south, range 35 east. A portion of the Blue Springs Wildland Urban Interface composes the project area along with parts of the Winom Frazier off-highway vehicle trail network and Sheep Ranch Allotment.

We propose approximately 3,000 acres of commercial harvest and 9,000 acres of non-commercial thinning, including follow-up treatments such as post-harvest understory removal, piling and burning. In addition, we propose 9,500 acres of prescribed burning across 12 natural fuels burn blocks. The district would need approximately 4 miles of temporary road to facilitate harvest activities.

As a project or activity implementing the land management plan not authorized under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, this project is subject to subparts A and B of the project level pre-decisional administrative review process as described in 36 CFR 218.

You can view the full proposal online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57625>. Alternatively, contact Brianna Carollo by phone (541-962-8588), email (brianna.carollo@usda.gov), or in person at the district office (address below) for a hardcopy of the scoping letter. You may contact Bill Gamble for additional information by phone (541-962-8582) or email (bill.gamble@usda.gov). Additionally, we will host an open house to answer any questions regarding the proposed action in person on February 27, 2020 from 5-7pm at the district office (address below).

The district proposes this project with the intent of adjusting actions according to your feedback. Your comments will help identify issues associated with the proposal and shape the alternatives we analyze. The district welcomes comments at any time; however, they are most helpful if received early. For eligibility during the objection period, we must receive your written comments by March 16, 2020. Submit hardcopy comments to Bill Gamble, District Ranger, La Grande Ranger District, Hwy 30, La Grande, OR 97850. Email comments to: comments-pacificnorthwest-wallowa-whitman-lagrande@usda.gov

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